



## December 2025 Newsletter



Welcome to Long Sutton Parish Council Newsletter, bringing you a summary of the latest Parish news and information.

## Parish Council News

### **\*\*COUNCILLOR VACANCY\*\***

Following the resignation of Cllr Gill Rickards, there is a casual vacancy on the Parish Council. A new member was co-opted at the December meeting, and we welcome David Furse-Roberts on board, but if you would like to join, there is still room for a new member, so please contact the clerk, Gilly, in the first instance by email on [clerk@longsutton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@longsutton-pc.gov.uk).

### Next Parish Council Meeting - 6th January 2026

The next parish council meeting is on **Tuesday 6th January 2026** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

The agenda for the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website (link below) up to seven days before the meeting date.



[Agenda and Minutes](#)

## Christmas Cart 2025

**The Long Sutton Christmas Cart Crew is coming to town!**



The Long Sutton Christmas Cart Crew is coming to town and they'll be jingling their way through Knole and Long Load on **Sunday 21st December** and then spreading even more Christmas cheer in Long Sutton and Upton on **Tuesday 23rd December**.

Expect twinkling lights, festive tunes, and plenty of holiday magic!

All donations will go to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance along with other much-loved local charities and community projects.

It's the perfect chance to join in the spirit of giving — Come out, say hello, and share a little Christmas cheer with the crew!

## Our Village Store & Post Office

Make your NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION to shop locally - use it, or lose it!

Five years ago the community worked hard to make sure we kept our village shop & post office. In August 2020, the Patel family took a chance on Long Sutton and invested heavily in their shop and more latterly the Post Office.

We all know that they cannot match all the prices of the super markets, but they are so convenient, obliging and ON OUR DOORSTEP!

Our community felt empty when we did not have a shop or Post Office, and we don't want to see that again.

Please support OUR local shop & Post Office whenever you can by setting yourself a New Year's Resolution to spend at least £10 each week in the shop. If every household in the village did this, then the shop would be profitable.

## News from the Environment Group

Long Sutton Environment Group are thrilled to announce a new logo for the Nature Reserve, which will be used on future signs and promotional material.

The logo was the winning design from a children's competition organised at the recent Environment Day. Amongst the lovely entries submitted, Ruby-May Woods, aged 7, produced a drawing we felt captured the essence of the reserve featuring water, trees, birds, and colourful flowers.

The logo will be sent to a design company to organise the signs, and we will announce the grand unveiling as soon as we have a date.

Here is the winning design - congratulations to Ruby-May, and thank you to everyone else who took the time to enter the competition!

## More gully clearing

The Parish Council organised for a final few days of gully clearing and flushing in the first week of December. Ably led by Cllr Tommy Tulk, the contractors re-visited areas they had previously cleared of roots, silt and other blockages to ensure free-flowing drains.

The gullies are now working around the school, although there is a bit of manual work to do in one of the holes where some roots need to be cut. The recent flooding there is due to the camber of the road which causes excessive run off.

Contractors flushing  
drains!

A coffee morning to support our very own Church of England Children's Society will be held on **Saturday 3rd January 2026** at Holy Trinity Church,

10.30 am to midday.  
Jean Tulk, who is no longer collecting on their behalf via the money boxes, would be extremely grateful for any type of donation for the produce / front of church stall.

Further details about the organisation can be found [here](#)

## **"Treecycle" your Christmas Tree for a good cause**

St Margaret's Hospice's beloved Christmas Tree collection is back for its fifth year – and it's growing stronger than ever! This January, they are once again teaming up with Children's Hospice South West to offer a simple, eco-friendly way to recycle your real Christmas tree – all while raising vital funds to support people living with life-limiting illness.

The service is hassle-free: one of the hospice's teams will collect your tree from your roadside in exchange for a kind donation, and local tree surgeons will chip it down for use in farms, gardens, and paths.

The event has become a true symbol of Somerset's generosity and teamwork, bringing together volunteers, local businesses and residents to turn festive clean-up into meaningful fundraising. Every donation ensures St Margaret's Hospice can continue to provide specialist support, comfort and compassion to patients and families facing life-limiting illness.

**Date:** 9-11 January

**Location:** Dozens of postcodes across Somerset. Register your interest today to help the hospice customise their radius!

Register your postcode here before 5th January for tree collection

## News from FOLSC

### A 2025 Retrospective and some dates for your diary!

As we move towards the New Year, FOLSC can look back on 2025 with some satisfaction. Five diverse gatherings have added close to £9,000 to the fighting fund, whilst providing a fine mix of entertainment for both members and the local community to enjoy. Many thanks to all who attended and supported our charity in achieving our joint aims of making money to maintain the fabric of Holy Trinity whilst having fun!

The new year is fast approaching, and plans are being finalised for our 2026 programme. On **February 7th**, FOLSC will again be hosting the ever-popular social gathering that is the church coffee morning. If you are new to the village do come along, as this is a great introduction to our village and its friendly community.

On **7th March** we are presenting a Mouse Race extravaganza; our last such event was back in 2010 and proved a hugely enjoyable evening that appealed to guests of all ages.

This in turn will be followed by our summer outing when Bristol's 'Opera in a Box' will be returning on **Saturday 27th June** and will be performing the ever popular '**Pirates of Penzance**'. Those who attended their previous productions here in Long Sutton will already know what to expect, and of course, it will be sung in English so we will all know exactly what is going on!

Finally, and nicely rounding off the year, Matt Park and friends will present another fabulous musical variety show with a theme of '**Music from the Musicals**', to be held in the village Hall on **Saturday 28th November**. We predict after the hugely enjoyable St Andrews Day concert in 2024 this is certain to be another sell out.

Our 2026 programme will have something for everyone and will appeal to all ages, so please make a note of the dates now and watch out for further details.

It now simply remains for the Trustees to wish all members, supporters and villagers a fabulous Christmas and in the hope 2026 might finally deliver the peaceful New Year the world craves.

## **Christmas Tennis**

**Saturday 27th December 10.30am -12.30pm**

Come and join us for some fun tennis and burn off a bit of Christmas pud in the process! This is open to everyone - free - and is a chance to hit some tennis balls, have fun and enjoy being on the courts.

Children and families: 10.30-11am

Adults of all abilities: 11-12.30

Then drinks in the Dev afterwards. Please contact Kate for an idea of numbers, but if you don't get around to planning ahead, please still turn up!

Contact Kate by email on [katestentlsvh@outlook.com](mailto:katestentlsvh@outlook.com) or 07584 083124

A few spare rackets and balls will be provided. Also, if you have any questions generally about the courts, please contact me.

Thanks, and hopefully see you on the courts soon! Kate

Book your place for Christmas Tennis here

## **An Evening with Jamie Snowden**

### **Wednesday 21st January 2026**

### **Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start**

Following the amazing evening we had at the beginning of the year, with Harry Cobden, then the current Champion NH jockey – we are going to repeat the National Hunt theme with an evening with the highly successful trainer Jamie Snowden.

This will be in the Village Hall on **Wednesday January 21<sup>st</sup> 2026** with Rupert Cox again being compere for the evening.

Doors will open at 7pm for a 7.30 start

Tickets available from the Village Shop and Sue Creegan 01458 241554 ( [suecreegan@outlook.com](mailto:suecreegan@outlook.com)) or Marian Draper 01458 241554 or 07885 301898 ([mariandraper737@btinternet.com](mailto:mariandraper737@btinternet.com)) price £20

There will be a raffle, auction, refreshments, bar & free drink on arrival

Profits to be shared between Long Sutton Church and Racing Welfare.

**An evening not to be missed!!!!!!**

## **St Margaret's Hospice News of Upcoming Events in 2026**

### **Make a fresh start for 2026 with St Margaret's Hospice's annual New Year's Day Dip!**

**Date:** Thursday 1 January at Minehead beach

Registration from 2pm, dip at 3pm

This much-loved tradition sees hundreds of fundraisers dash into the icy waters of the Bristol Channel to kick-start the year with courage, laughter and community spirit. The hospice is inviting brave fundraisers to throw on their fancy dress and take the plunge, all in the name of supporting local hospice care.

Those keen to push themselves even further can pair the Dip with the **Fire & Ice Challenge**, combining the New Year's Day plunge with February's Firewalk in Yeovil to earn the exclusive "Fire & Ice Champion" medal.

If you'd prefer to stay warm and toasty but still want to help out – the hospice also needs volunteers to help make the event a success!

Roles include registration, serving refreshments, and bucket collecting.

[Further details of the New Year's Day Dip can be found here](#)

Also in January, St Margaret's Hospice Care is calling on dog lovers to lace up their walking boots and take part in the **Walk 100 Miles With Your Dog Challenge** this January. The virtual event invites participants and their four-legged friends to cover 100 miles over the month while raising funds to support patients and families across the county.

Participants can sign up for **FREE** and receive a special doggy bandana, as well as a mileage tracker and a sponsorship form. Simply tick off the miles you have walked throughout the month, and collect as much sponsorship as you can for the hospice.

Last year, 8-year-old Adeline and her Great Dane Olive completed the challenge and raised a fantastic £535 for the hospice! Her mother Karla, who works at the hospice, said, "Adeline is always keen to help anyone, and to see the impact her fundraising has made is very special."

More details about the 100-Mile January Challenge can be found [here](#)

Let us know if there is anything else you would like to see in the newsletter: [clerk@longsutton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@longsutton-pc.gov.uk)

**Long Sutton Parish Council**

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